

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on June 17, 2003, and the references cited therewith.

Claims 1-22 are canceled, and claims 23-42 are added. Claims 23-42 are now pending in this application. The new claims do not introduce new matter, and are believed allowable in view of the cited art.

§112 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1, 8, 12 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The claims have been cancelled, rendering the rejection moot.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schultheiss (U.S. 6,208,384) in view of Choi (U.S. 5,648,781), and Claims 19-22 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schultheiss.

This rejection is also believed moot in view of the new claims that are being submitted for consideration. The new claims all reference the ability of the remote control device to provide "immediate accessibility to the multimedia device through the computer". Schultheiss provides direct access to a television, but the only access provided through the computer is that of a menu. The present application addresses how to control multimedia devices through a computer, without going through such a menu structure. While Schultheiss contains statements that the television is directly controlled through the computer, Col. 7, lines 37-40, such statements are always in the context of using the remote to navigate through a menu, such as an online television program guide, as indicated at Col. 7, lines 40-50. Thus, there is no teaching in Schultheiss of such direct accessibility as claimed.

Choi, as indicated in the Office Action, controls electrical appliances using control menus, which the present application cites as a problem that exists in the prior art. Thus, Choi clearly does not provide such direct accessibility as claimed.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612) 373-6972 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.


Respectfully submitted,

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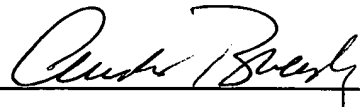
Date 8-7-2003

By 
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O.Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 7 day of August, 2003.

Candis B. Buending

Name


Signature